



## Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Selected Airborne Chemicals: Volume 18

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# Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Selected Airborne Chemicals

## VOLUME 18

Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels

Committee on Toxicology

Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology

Division on Earth and Life Studies

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## Preface

Extremely hazardous substances (EHSs)<sup>2</sup> can be released accidentally as a result of chemical spills, industrial explosions, fires, or accidents involving railroad cars and trucks transporting EHSs. Workers and residents in communities surrounding industrial facilities where EHSs are manufactured, used, or stored and in communities along the nation's railways and highways are potentially at risk of being exposed to airborne EHSs during accidental releases or intentional releases by terrorists. Pursuant to the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified approximately 400 EHSs on the basis of acute lethality data in rodents.

As part of its efforts to develop acute exposure guideline levels for EHSs, EPA and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in 1991 requested that the National Research Council (NRC) develop guidelines for establishing such levels. In response to that request, the NRC published *Guidelines for Developing Community Emergency Exposure Levels for Hazardous Substances* in 1993. Subsequently, *Standard Operating Procedures for Developing Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances* was published in 2001, providing updated procedures, methodologies, and other guidelines used by the National Advisory Committee (NAC) on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances and the Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs) in developing the AEGL values.

Using the 1993 and 2001 NRC guidelines reports, the NAC—consisting of members from EPA, the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of Transportation (DOT), other federal and state governments, the chemical industry, academia, and other organizations from the private sector—has developed AEGLs for more than 270 EHSs.

In 1998, EPA and DOD requested that the NRC independently review the AEGLs developed by NAC. In response to that request, the NRC organized within its Committee on Toxicology (COT) the Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels, which prepared this report. This report is the eighteenth volxiv  
*Preface*

ume in that series. AEGL documents for bromine chloride, carbonyl fluoride, selected halogen fluorides, and oxygen difluoride are each published as an appendix in this report. The committee concludes that the AEGLs developed in these appendixes are scientifically valid conclusions based on the data reviewed by NAC and are consistent with the NRC guideline reports. AEGL reports for additional chemicals will be presented in subsequent volumes.

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<sup>2</sup> As defined pursuant to the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986.

The committee's review of the AEGL documents involved both oral and written presentations to the committee by the authors of the documents. The committee examined the draft documents and provided comments and recommendations for how they could be improved in a series of interim reports. The authors revised the draft AEGL documents based on the advice in the interim reports and presented them for reexamination by the committee as many times as necessary until the committee was satisfied that the AEGLs were scientifically justified and consistent with the 1993 and 2001 NRC guideline reports. After these determinations have been made for an AEGL document, it is published as an appendix in a volume such as this one.

The interim reports of the committee that led to this report were reviewed in draft form by individuals selected for their diverse perspectives and technical expertise, in accordance with procedures approved by the NRC's Report Review Committee. The purpose of this independent review is to provide candid and critical comments that will assist the institution in making its published report as sound as possible and to ensure that the report meets institutional standards for objectivity, evidence, and responsiveness to the study charge. The review comments and draft manuscript remain confidential to protect the integrity of the deliberative process. We wish to thank the following individuals for their review of the committee interim reports, which summarize the committee's conclusions and recommendations for improving NAC's AEGL documents for bromine chloride (interim report 22), carbonyl fluoride (interim report 22), selected halogen fluorides (interim reports 16, 18, and 22), and oxygen difluoride (interim report 22): Sam Kacew (University of Ottawa), A. Wallace Hayes (Harvard School of Public Health), Rogene Henderson (Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute [retired]), Charles Reinhardt (DuPont Haskell Laboratory [retired]), Andrew Salmon (California Environmental Protection Agency), Joyce Tsuji (Exponent, Inc.), and Judith Zelikoff (New York University).

Although the reviewers listed above have provided many constructive comments and suggestions, they were not asked to endorse the conclusions or recommendations, nor did they see the final draft of this volume before its release. The review of interim reports was overseen by Robert Goyer (University of Western Ontario [retired]). Appointed by the NRC, he was responsible for making certain that an independent examination of the interim reports was carried out in accordance with institutional procedures and that all review comments were carefully considered. Responsibility for the final content of this report rests entirely with the authoring committee and the institution.

The committee gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance provided by Ernest Falke and Iris A. Camacho from EPA. The committee also acknowl*Preface*  
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edges Susan Martel, the project director for her work this project. Other staff members who contributed to this effort are James J. Reisa (director of the Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology), Radiah Rose (manager of editorial projects), Mirsada Karalic-Loncarevic (manager of the Technical Information Center), and Tamara Dawson (program associate). Finally, I would like to thank

all members of the committee for their expertise and dedicated effort throughout the development of this report.

Edward C. Bishop, *Chair*  
Committee on Acute Exposure  
Guideline Levels



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**Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for  
Selected Airborne Chemicals**

**VOLUME 18**



# National Research Council Committee

## Review of Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Selected Airborne Chemicals

This report is the eighteenth volume in the series *Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Selected Airborne Chemicals*.

In the Bhopal disaster of 1984, approximately 2,000 residents living near a chemical plant were killed and 20,000 more suffered irreversible damage to their eyes and lungs following accidental release of methyl isocyanate. The toll was particularly high because the community had little idea what chemicals were being used at the plant, how dangerous they might be, or what steps to take in an emergency. This tragedy served to focus international attention on the need for governments to identify hazardous substances and to assist local communities in planning how to deal with emergency exposures.

In the United States, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986 required that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identify extremely hazardous substances (EHSs) and, in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation, assist local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) by providing guidance for conducting health hazard assessments for the development of emergency response plans for sites where EHSs are produced, stored, transported, or used. SARA also required that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) determine whether chemical substances identified at hazardous waste sites or in the environment present a public health concern.

As a first step in assisting the LEPCs, EPA identified approximately 400 EHSs largely on the basis of their immediately dangerous to life and health values, developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Although several public and private groups, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, have established exposure limits for some substances and some exposures (e.g., workplace or ambient air quality), these limits are not easily or directly translated into emergency exposure limits for exposures at high levels

but of short duration, usually less than 1 hour (h), and only once in a lifetime for the general population, which includes infants (from birth to 3 years of age), children, the elderly, and persons with diseases, such as asthma or heart disease.

The National Research Council (NRC) Committee on Toxicology (COT) has published many reports on emergency exposure guidance levels and spacecraft maximum allowable concentrations for chemicals used by the U.S.

Department of Defense (DOD) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) (NRC 1968, 1972, 1984a,b,c,d, 1985a,b, 1986a, 1987, 1988, 1994, 1996a,b, 2000a, 2002a, 2007a, 2008a). COT has also published guidelines for developing emergency exposure guidance levels for military personnel and for astronauts (NRC 1986b, 1992, 2000b). Because of COT's experience in recommending emergency exposure levels for short-term exposures, in 1991 EPA and ATSDR requested that COT develop criteria and methods for developing emergency exposure levels for EHSs for the general population. In response to that request, the NRC assigned this project to the COT Subcommittee on Guidelines for Developing Community Emergency Exposure Levels for Hazardous Substances. The report of that subcommittee, *Guidelines for Developing Community Emergency Exposure Levels for Hazardous Substances* (NRC 1993), provides step-by-step guidance for setting emergency exposure levels for EHSs. Guidance is given on what data are needed, what data are available, how to evaluate the data, and how to present the results.

In November 1995, the National Advisory Committee (NAC)<sup>3</sup> for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances was established to identify, review, and interpret relevant toxicologic and other scientific data and to develop acute exposure guideline levels (AEGLs) for high-priority, acutely toxic chemicals. The NRC's previous name for acute exposure levels—community emergency exposure levels (CEELs)—was replaced by the term AEGLs to reflect the broad application of these values to planning, response, and prevention in the community, the workplace, transportation, the military, and the remediation of Superfund sites.

AEGLs represent threshold exposure limits (exposure levels below which adverse health effects are not likely to occur) for the general public and are applicable to emergency exposures ranging from 10 minutes (min) to 8 h. Three levels—AEGL-1, AEGL-2, and AEGL-3—are developed for each of five exposure periods (10 min, 30 min, 1 h, 4 h, and 8 h) and are distinguished by varying degrees of severity of toxic effects. The three AEGLs are defined as follows:

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AEGL-1 is the airborne concentration (expressed as ppm [parts per million] or mg/m<sup>3</sup> [milligrams per cubic meter]) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic nonsensory effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure.

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<sup>3</sup> NAC completed its chemical reviews in October 2011. The committee was composed of members from EPA, DOD, many other federal and state agencies, industry, academia, and other organizations. From 1996 to 2011, the NAC discussed over 300 chemicals and developed AEGLs values for at least 272 of the 329 chemicals on the AEGLs priority chemicals lists. Although the work of the NAC has ended, the NAC-reviewed technical support documents are being submitted to the NRC for independent review and finalization.

AEGL-2 is the airborne concentration (expressed as ppm or mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an impaired ability to escape.

AEGL-3 is the airborne concentration (expressed as ppm or mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience life-threatening adverse health effects or death.

Airborne concentrations below AEGL-1 represent exposure levels that can produce mild and progressively increasing but transient and nondisabling odor, taste, and sensory irritation or certain asymptomatic nonsensory adverse effects. With increasing airborne concentrations above each AEGL, there is a progressive increase in the likelihood of occurrence and the severity of effects described for each corresponding AEGL. Although the AEGL values represent threshold levels for the general public, including susceptible subpopulations, such as infants, children, the elderly, persons with asthma, and those with other illnesses, it is recognized that individuals, subject to idiosyncratic responses, could experience the effects described at concentrations below the corresponding AEGL.

### **SUMMARY OF REPORT ON GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING AEGLS**

As described in *Guidelines for Developing Community Emergency Exposure Levels for Hazardous Substances* (NRC 1993) and the NRC guidelines report *Standing Operating Procedures for Developing Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Chemicals* (NRC 2001a), the first step in establishing AEGLs for a chemical is to collect and review all relevant published and unpublished information. Various types of evidence are assessed in establishing AEGL values for a chemical. These include information from (1) chemicalphysical characterizations, (2) structure-activity relationships, (3) in vitro toxicity studies, (4) animal toxicity studies, (5) controlled human studies, (6) observations of humans involved in chemical accidents, and (7) epidemiologic studies. Toxicity data from human studies are most applicable and are used when available in preference to data from animal studies and in vitro studies. Toxicity data from inhalation exposures are most useful for setting AEGLs for airborne chemicals because inhalation is the most likely route of exposure and because extrapolation of data from other routes would lead to additional uncertainty in the AEGL estimate.

For most chemicals, actual human toxicity data are not available or critical information on exposure is lacking, so toxicity data from studies conducted in laboratory animals are extrapolated to estimate the potential toxicity in humans. Such extrapolation requires experienced scientific judgment. The toxicity data for animal species most representative of humans in terms of pharmacodynamic and

pharmacokinetic properties are used for determining AEGLs. If data are not available on the species that best represents humans, data from the most sensitive animal species are used. Uncertainty factors are commonly used when animal data are used to estimate risk levels for humans. The magnitude of uncertainty factors depends on the quality of the animal data used to determine the noobserved-adverse-effect level (NOAEL) and the mode of action of the substance in question. When available, pharmacokinetic data on tissue doses are considered for interspecies extrapolation.

For substances that affect several organ systems or have multiple effects, all end points (including reproductive [in both genders], developmental, neurotoxic, respiratory, and other organ-related effects) are evaluated, the most important or most sensitive effect receiving the greatest attention. For carcinogenic chemicals, excess carcinogenic risk is estimated, and the AEGLs corresponding to carcinogenic risks of 1 in 10,000 ( $1 \times 10^{-4}$ ), 1 in 100,000 ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$ ), and 1 in 1,000,000 ( $1 \times 10^{-6}$ ) exposed persons are estimated.

## REVIEW OF AEGL REPORTS

As NAC began developing chemical-specific AEGL reports, EPA and DOD asked the NRC to review independently the NAC reports for their scientific validity, completeness, and consistency with the NRC guideline reports (NRC 1993, 2001a). The NRC assigned this project to the COT Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels. The committee has expertise in toxicology, epidemiology, occupational health, pharmacology, medicine, pharmacokinetics, industrial hygiene, and risk assessment.

The AEGL draft reports were initially prepared by ad hoc AEGL development teams consisting of a chemical manager, chemical reviewers, and a staff scientist of the NAC contractors—Oak Ridge National Laboratory and subsequently SRC, Inc. The draft documents were then reviewed by NAC and elevated from “draft” to “proposed” status. After the AEGL documents were approved by NAC, they were published in the *Federal Register* for public comment. The reports were then revised by NAC in response to the public comments, elevated from “proposed” to “interim” status, and sent to the NRC Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for final evaluation.

The NRC committee’s review of the AEGL reports prepared by NAC and its contractors involves oral and written presentations to the committee by the authors of the reports. The NRC committee provides advice and recommendations for revisions to ensure scientific validity and consistency with the NRC guideline reports (NRC 1993, 2001a). The revised reports are presented at subsequent meetings until the committee is satisfied with the reviews.

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Because of the enormous amount of data presented in AEGL reports, the NRC committee cannot verify all of the data used by NAC. The NRC committee relies on NAC and the contractors for the accuracy and completeness of the

toxicity data cited in the AEGL reports. Thus far, the committee has prepared seventeen reports in the series *Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Selected Airborne Chemicals* (NRC 2001b, 2002b, 2003, 2004, 2007b, 2008b, 2009, 2010a,b, 2011, 2012a,b,c, 2013a,b, 2014a,b). This report is the eighteenth volume in that series. AEGL documents for bromine chloride, carbonyl fluoride, selected halogen fluorides, and oxygen difluoride are each published as an appendix in this report. The committee concludes that the AEGLs developed in these appendixes are scientifically valid conclusions based on the data reviewed by NAC and are consistent with the NRC guideline reports. AEGL reports for additional chemicals will be presented in subsequent volumes.

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# Appendixes



# 4

## Oxygen Difluoride<sup>4</sup>

### Acute Exposure Guideline Levels

#### PREFACE

Under the authority of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) P.L. 92-463 of 1972, the National Advisory Committee for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances (NAC/AEGL Committee) has been established to identify, review, and interpret relevant toxicologic and other scientific data and develop AEGLs for high-priority, acutely toxic chemicals.

AEGLs represent threshold exposure limits for the general public and are applicable to emergency exposure periods ranging from 10 minutes (min) to 8 hours (h). Three levels—AEGL-1, AEGL-2, and AEGL-3—are developed for each of five exposure periods (10 and 30 min and 1, 4, and 8 h) and are distinguished by varying degrees of severity of toxic effects. The three AEGLs are defined as follows:

AEGL-1 is the airborne concentration (expressed as parts per million or milligrams per cubic meter [ppm or mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic, nonsensory

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<sup>4</sup> This document was prepared by the AEGL Development Team composed of Robert Young (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Gary Diamond (SRC, Inc.), Julie Klotzbach (SRC, Inc.), Chemical Manager Iris Camacho (National Advisory Committee [NAC] on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels for Hazardous Substances), and Ernest V. Falke (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). The NAC reviewed and revised the document and AEGLs as deemed necessary. Both the document and the AEGL values were then reviewed by the National Research Council (NRC) Committee on Acute Exposure Guideline Levels. The NRC committee has concluded that the AEGLs developed in this document are scientifically valid conclusions based on the data reviewed by the NRC and are consistent with the NRC guidelines reports (NRC 1993, 2001).

effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure.

AEGL-2 is the airborne concentration (expressed as ppm or mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects or an impaired ability to escape.

AEGL-3 is the airborne concentration (expressed as ppm or mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience life-threatening health effects or death.

Airborne concentrations below the AEGL-1 represent exposure concentrations that could produce mild and progressively increasing but transient and nondisabling odor, taste, and sensory irritation or certain asymptomatic, nonsensory effects. With increasing airborne concentrations above each AEGL, there is a progressive increase in the likelihood of occurrence and the severity of effects described for each corresponding AEGL. Although the AEGL values represent threshold concentrations for the general public, including susceptible subpopulations, such as infants, children, the elderly, persons with asthma, and those with other illnesses, it is recognized that individuals, subject to idiosyncratic responses, could experience the effects described at concentrations below the corresponding AEGL.

**SUMMARY**

Oxygen difluoride is an irritating, colorless gas that has been used as an oxidizing propellant for missiles (Darmer et al. 1972). Because of its powerful oxidizing potential, contact with reducing agents should be avoided. Oxygen difluoride reacts slowly with water to form hydrofluoric acid and may be explosive when mixed with hydrocarbons. The odor of oxygen difluoride has been described as “not displeasing”, peculiar, or foul. The concentration at which an odor is detected has been reported to be 0.1 ppm, with an obvious odor at 0.5 ppm. Rapid accommodation to the odor has been reported. No data were available from which to calculate a level of odor awareness.

No information on lethality in humans after exposure to oxygen difluoride was available, but inhalation exposure reportedly produces effects similar to those caused by ozone (respiratory tract irritation and pulmonary edema and hemorrhage). Intractable headaches were associated with oxygen difluoride vapors at concentrations in the parts per billion. Quantitative exposure-response information on oxygen difluoride in humans was not found.

Although acute lethality data are available for monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice, the overall exposure-response relationship for oxygen difluoride is not well defined. Analysis lethality data revealed that 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> (lethal concentration, 50%

lethality) values varied about 17-fold between the least sensitive species (monkeys) and the most sensitive (mice), with larger species appearing to be *124 Acute Exposure Guideline Levels*

less sensitive (1-h LC<sub>50</sub> values were 1.5, 2.6, 16, and 26.0 ppm, respectively, for mice, rats, dogs, and monkeys). Although pulmonary damage was apparent in exposed animals, the chemical does not appear to damage bronchial mucosal surfaces as do other fluorine compounds. For all species tested, delayed death (hours to days) was a typical response pattern.

Exposure-response data for AEGL-1 severity effects were unavailable. Studies in laboratory species focused on lethality. Where nonlethal responses were reported, the severity of the effects were either not described or likely involved effects that are more severe (e.g., pulmonary damage) than those relevant to AEGL-1 values. Therefore, AEGL-1 values are not recommended for oxygen difluoride because of insufficient data.

Information regarding AEGL-2 severity effects is limited to that obtained from two studies focusing on lethality (Lester and Adams 1965; Davis 1970). Neither study identified a no-effect level for AEGL-2 effects. The lowest concentrations tested (per exposure duration) in monkeys, dogs, and rats were the no-effect levels for lethality. Therefore, the data are not suitable as the basis for AEGL-2 values. Lethality data on oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice indicate that the exposure-response curve is steep. Therefore, in accordance with the standing operating procedures for deriving AEGL values (NRC 2001), AEGL-2 values were determined by dividing the AEGL-3 values by 3.

For AEGL-3 values, a lethality threshold for oxygen difluoride was estimated from the study of rhesus monkeys by Davis (1970). Analysis of the 1-h exposure data resulted in a BMC<sub>05</sub> (benchmark concentration, 5% response) of 17.2 ppm, a BMCL<sub>05</sub> (benchmark concentration, 95% lower confidence limit with 5% response) of 7.48 ppm, and a BMC<sub>01</sub> (benchmark concentration, 1% response) of 14.4. The BMCL<sub>05</sub> was used as the point-of-departure because it accounts for the variability due to the small number of animals tested (four per group) and is typically used as the point-of-departure for deriving AEGL-3 values (NRC 2001). It is also lower than the LC<sub>5</sub> determined by the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (1949). Time scaling was performed using the equation  $C^n \times t = k$ . An empirical value of 1.1 for the exponent  $n$  was determined using the data of Lester and Adams (1965) and Davis (1970) and the software package of ten Berge.

A total uncertainty factor of 10 was applied. Davis (1970) evaluated acute inhalation toxicity of oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats and mice. Results indicate that larger species (dogs and monkeys) are less sensitive to the lethal effects of oxygen difluoride than smaller species (rats and mice). However, the study was conducted using a small number of animals (two males and two females per group), so a factor of 3 was applied to account for species differences. Although asthmatics and individuals with compromised pulmonary function may be more susceptible to the effects of oxygen difluoride vapor, necropsy findings in multiple animal species indicate that the primary target of oxygen difluoride toxicity is the lungs rather than the airways. For this reason, an intraspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was considered sufficient to account for

individual variability in the toxic response to inhaled oxygen difluoride

ride. A factor of 3 is also consistent with the uncertainty factor used for other direct-acting fluorinated compounds (chlorine pentafluoride, chlorine trifluoride, and hydrogen fluoride).

The AEGL values for oxygen difluoride are presented in Table 4-1.

1. INTRODUCTION

Oxygen difluoride is an irritating, colorless gas that has been used as an oxidizing propellant for missiles (Darmer et al. 1972). Because of its powerful oxidizing potential, contact with reducing agents should be avoided. It may be explosive when mixed with hydrocarbons (HSDB 2005). The chemical and physical properties of oxygen difluoride are presented in Table 4-2.

TABLE 4-1 AEGL Values for Oxygen Difluoride

Classification	10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h	End Point (Reference)
AEGL-1 (nondisabling)	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	Insufficient data.
AEGL-2 (disabling)	0.43 ppm (0.95 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.16 ppm (0.35 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.083 ppm (0.18 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.024 ppm (0.053 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.013 ppm (0.029 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	One-third of AEGL-3 values.
AEGL-3 (lethal)	1.3 ppm (2.9 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.47 ppm (1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.25 ppm (0.55 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.071 ppm (0.16 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.038 ppm (0.084 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1-h BMCL <sub>05</sub> of 7.48 ppm for rhesus monkeys (Davis 1970)

<sup>a</sup>Not recommended. Absence of AEGL-1 values does not imply that exposures at concentrations below the AEGL-2 values are without adverse effects.

TABLE 4-2 Chemical and Physical Data for Oxygen Difluoride

Parameter	Value	Reference
Synonyms	Difluorine monoxide; fluorine oxide; oxydifluoride; oxygen fluoride	HSDB 2005
CAS registry no.	7783-41-7	HSDB 2005
Chemical formula	OF <sub>2</sub>	NIOSH 2013
Molecular weight	54.00	HSDB 2005
Physical state	Colorless gas; yellowish-brown liquid	HSDB 2005
Melting point	-223.8°C	HSDB 2005
Boiling point	-144.75°C	HSDB 2005



Solubility in water	6.8 mL/100 mL at 0°C	HSDB 2005
Density/Specific gravity	1.9 at -223.8°C (liquid)	HSDB 2005
Relative vapor density	1.86	ACGIH 2001
Vapor pressure	>760 mm Hg	ACGIH 2001
Conversion factors in air	1 ppm = 2.2 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> = 0.45 ppm	NIOSH 2011

2. HUMAN TOXICITY DATA

2.1. Acute Lethality

No data were available regarding lethality in humans following inhalation exposure to oxygen difluoride.

2.2. Nonlethal Toxicity

In a review chapter, Deichmann and Gerarde (1969) noted that inhalation of oxygen difluoride produced effects similar to those caused by ozone. Respiratory tract irritation and pulmonary edema and hemorrhage were observed following exposure at 0.5 ppm for a few hours (duration was not further defined). However, no additional information was reported and a primary reference for this information was not provided. Exposure to oxygen difluoride at concentrations in the parts per billion reportedly caused intractable headaches in workers conducting animal exposure studies (LaBelle et al. 1945). Sullivan et al. (1995) included oxygen difluoride among the compounds considered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as potentially causing respiratory effects in construction industry workers, but no exposure-response information was provided. Lester and Adams (1965) reported that oxygen difluoride has a “not displeasing” odor that is detectable at 0.1 ppm and obvious at 0.5 ppm. However, NIOSH (2011) reported that oxygen difluoride has a peculiar foul odor. Rapid accommodation to the odor has been reported. No additional information was available; therefore, a level of odor awareness could not be calculated.

2.3. Developmental and Reproductive Effects

No human developmental or reproductive toxicity data were available for oxygen difluoride.

2.4. Genotoxicity

No human genotoxicity data on oxygen difluoride were available.

## 2.5. Carcinogenicity

No data regarding the carcinogenic potential of oxygen difluoride in humans were found.

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## 2.6. Summary

No exposure-response data for inhalation exposure of humans to oxygen difluoride were available. The chemical reportedly is very irritating and has caused severe headaches at concentrations in the parts per billion, and severe irritation and pulmonary edema and hemorrhage following a few hours exposure at 0.5 ppm.

# 3. ANIMAL TOXICITY DATA

## 3.1. Acute Lethality

### 3.1.1. Monkeys

In a multispecies acute inhalation toxicity study, Davis (1970) exposed rhesus monkeys (two males and two females) to oxygen difluoride (commercial grade, 98% purity) for 15 min or 1 h. The oxygen difluoride was diluted with dry nitrogen before the animals were placed in the Longley exposure chambers. An MSA BillionAire was used for concentration monitoring (the BillionAire analyzer functions by exposing an air-gas sample with a suitable reagent and passing it through a radioactive source within the chamber. The ions that are formed create a current which is a function of the concentration of vapor present and which is measured by an electrometer). The animals were observed during the exposure and for 14 days after exposure. Monkeys exhibited dyspnea for several days following exposure, gagging, salivation, lacrimation, vomiting, tetany, and muscular weakness. Necropsies revealed massive pulmonary edema and hemorrhage and also congestion of the liver, spleen, and kidneys. No sign of skin irritation was observed even at lethal concentrations. The lethality data are presented in Table 4-3. Time-to-death was not specified. The reported LC<sub>50</sub> values were 108 ppm and 26.0 ppm, respectively, for the 15-min and 60-min exposures. On the basis of the concentration-time ( $C \times t$ ) product, the investigator noted a near linear response for the time range tested (1,620 ppm-min vs. 1,560 ppm-min for the 15-min and 60-min exposures, respectively).

A 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> of 16 ppm for rhesus monkeys (assumed to be a combined value from two males and two females per group) was reported by Darmer et al. (1972). That concentration, cited from Davis (1970), is likely a reporting error and should be 26 ppm which is the value reported in the Davis study.

3.1.2. Dogs

Davis (1970) also studied lethality in beagle dogs exposed to oxygen difluoride for 15 or 60 min. Experimental procedures were the same as those described for the experiments with monkeys (see Section 3.1.1). The dogs exhibited responses similar to those of the monkeys. LC<sub>50</sub> values of 90 ppm and 26.0 ppm were reported for the 15-min and 60-min exposures, respectively. Similar to the findings in monkeys, the response was near-linear; 1,350 ppmmin and 1,560 ppm-min, respectively, for the 15-min and 1-h exposures. Results of the experiment are summarized in Table 4-4.

Darmer et al. (1972) reported a 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> of 26.0 ppm for groups of four male and female beagle dogs (assumed to be a combined value with two males and two females per group). Experimental details are described in Section 3.1.1.

3.1.3. Rats

The acute inhalation toxicity of oxygen difluoride in rats was studied by Lester and Adams (1965). Groups of 10 Sprague-Dawley rats (150-175 g; assumed to be five males and five females per group) were exposed to oxygen difluoride (>97% purity) at concentrations of 10, 20, 30, or 40 ppm for 5 min, or

TABLE 4-3 Mortality in Rhesus Monkeys Exposed to Oxygen Difluoride Vapor

No. exposed	Concentration (ppm)	Mortality ratio
<i>15-min exposure</i>		
4	60	0/4
4	100	2/4
4	120	2/4
4	140	4/4
<i>60-min exposure</i>		
4		0/4
4	16.0 21.0	1/4
4	32.0	3/4

Source: Adapted from Davis 1970.

TABLE 4-4 Mortality in Dogs Exposed to Oxygen Difluoride

No. exposed	Concentration (ppm)	Mortality ratio
-------------	---------------------	-----------------

<i>15-min exposure</i>		
4	60	0/4
4	80	1/4
4	100	3/4
<i>60-min exposure</i>		
4		0/4
4	8.2	2/4
4	16.0 21.0	1/4
4	32.0	4/4

Source: Adapted from Davis 1970.

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at 5, 10, or 15 ppm for 15 min. The oxygen difluoride was injected in a synchronized manner into a dry airstream prior to delivery into a 10-L glass desiccator containing the rats. The rats were observed for up to 14 days after exposure. In a separate experiment, a group of 14 rats were exposed to oxygen difluoride for 5 min at 20 ppm, and rats were killed (by over-anesthetization with diethyl ether) at intervals for up to 29 h. Rats were examined grossly and the lungs were examined microscopically. For the 5-min exposures, the investigators estimated a 50% lethal response at 17 ppm. A 5-min LC<sub>5</sub> of 17.635 ppm (95% confidence interval: 14.351 to - 21.669 ppm) was determined by the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (see Appendix E). Using the benchmark dose method of EPA (2003), a BMCL<sub>05</sub> of 7.4 ppm and a BMC<sub>01</sub> of 9.2 ppm were calculated for the 5-min exposure data (see Appendix D). For the 15-min exposure, the investigators estimated 8 ppm as a 50% lethal response. The data were insufficient to be analyzed by the Litchfield and Wilcoxon procedure. On the basis of both the 5- and 15-min data, 100 ppm-min was considered as an estimate of the C × T product associated with a 50% lethal response (only slightly greater than the C × T of 85 ppm product for the 5-min exposure). BMCL<sub>05</sub> and BMC<sub>01</sub> values for the 15min exposure were 2.3 ppm and 3.6 ppm, respectively (see Appendix D). Although the animals exhibited no signs of irritation or distress during the exposures, “widespread pulmonary damage” was considered the cause of death with respiratory difficulties observed only immediately prior to death. The primary target appeared to be at the level of the alveoli as there were no signs of damage to external mucosal surfaces or the bronchial tree. All deaths occurred 9-66 h after exposure (see Table 4-5).

As described for monkeys (Section 3.1.1), Darmer et al, (1972) also reported a 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> value of 2.6 ppm for male (n = 10) Sprague-Dawley rats. This is likely the same 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> value of 2.6 ppm (2.5-2.7) reported by Vernot et al. (1977) for male rats and originally reported by Davis (1970).

TABLE 4-5 Mortality in Rats Exposed to Oxygen Difluoride

Exposure Duration (min)	Concentration (ppm) <sup>a</sup>	Mortality	Time-to-death (h) <sup>b</sup>
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5	10 (9.7)	0/10	–
5	20 (19.5)	7/10	27, 27, 27, 42, 42, 42, 66
5	30 (29.2)	9/10	10, 10, 17, 17, 17, 27, 29, 31, 39
5	40 (39.0)	10/10	10, 10, 10, 10, 19, 19, 19, 19, 25, 25
15	5 (4.9)	0/10	–
15	10 (9.7)	7/10	9, 17, 17, 20, 28, 41, 49
15	15 (14.6)	7/10	15, 24, 30, 30, 30, 41, 55

<sup>a</sup> Values in parentheses are corrected for the reported 97.4% OF<sub>2</sub> assay efficiency.  
<sup>b</sup> Number of hours after exposure.  
Source: Lester and Adams 1965. Reprinted with permission; copyright 1965, *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*.

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Groups of 10-15 male Wistar rats were exposed to oxygen difluoride for 15 or 60 min and observed for 14 days (Davis 1970) (see Section 3.1.1. for experimental details). The rats exhibited somewhat different signs during exposure than did the monkeys and dogs, which involved tachypnea and muscular weakness only. The mortality data for rats is summarized in Table 4-6. LC<sub>50</sub> values of 12.7 ppm and 2.6 ppm for 15- and 60-min exposures, respectively, were reported.

In a study designed to evaluate ultrastructural changes in respiratory tissue, groups of four white rats (sex not specified) were exposed to oxygen difluoride at 4.5 ppm (mean measured concentrations) for 30 or 60 min (Harrison and Mackenzie 1973). All animals exposed for 60 min died within 3 days of exposure. All rats exposed for 30 min survived exposure but showed signs of respiratory distress (details not reported) which resolved after 2 days.

3.1.4. Mice

Both Darmer et al. (1972) and Vernot et .al. (1977) reported a 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> of 1.5 ppm for groups of 10 male ICR mice, which originates with the work of Davis (1970).

Groups of 15 male ICR mice were exposed to oxygen difluoride for 15 or 60 min and observed for 14 days in the Davis (1970) study (see Section 3.1.1. for experimental details). The mice exhibited somewhat different signs during exposure than did the monkeys and dogs, which involved tachypnea and muscular weakness only. The mortality data for mice is summarized in Table 4-7. LC<sub>50</sub> values of 7.5 ppm and 1.5 ppm for the 15- and 60-min exposures, respectively, were reported.

TABLE 4-6 Mortality in Rats Exposed to Oxygen Difluoride Vapor

No. exposed	Concentration (ppm)	Mortality ratio
<i>15-min exposure</i>		
10	9.5	0/10
10	10.4	1/10
10	11.0	3/10
10	11.9	1/10
10	13.8	9/10
10	15.2	8/10
10	16.5	9/10
<i>60-min exposure</i>		
10		0/10
10	2.2 2.7	7/10
15	3.0	14/15
10	4.0	10/10

Source: Adapted from Davis 1970.

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3.1.5. Summary of Animal Lethality Data

Lethality data for laboratory species exposed to oxygen difluoride are summarized in Table 4-8. Comparing 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> values reveals about a 17-fold difference between the least sensitive and most sensitive of the four species tested, with larger species appearing to be less sensitive. On the basis of experimental results from monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice, Davis (1970) summarized that the primary target of oxygen difluoride toxicity is the lungs and that there is a considerable difference in susceptibility among the species tested. Specifically, rats and mice were much more susceptible to the effects of oxygen difluoride than were monkeys or dogs. For all species tested, delayed death (hours to days) was a typical response pattern.

TABLE 4-7 Mortality in Mice Exposed to Oxygen Difluoride Vapor

No. exposed	Concentration (ppm)	Mortality ratio
<i>15-min exposure</i>		
15		8/15
15		1/15
15		8/15
15	4.5 5.8	4/15
15	7.5 8.5	12/15
15	9.5	8/15
15	11.0 11.9	15/15
15	15.2	12/15
15	16.5	14/15
<i>60-min exposure</i>		
15		5/15
15	1.0 2.2	8/15
15	4.2	15/15

Source: Adapted from Davis 1970.

**TABLE 4-8** Lethality of Oxygen Difluoride in Laboratory Animals

Species	Exposure Duration	Response	Reference
Monkey	1 h 15 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 26 ppm	Davis 1970
		LC <sub>50</sub> = 108 ppm	Davis 1970
Dog	1 h 15 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 26.0 ppm	Davis 1970
		LC <sub>50</sub> = 90 ppm	Davis 1970
Rat	5 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 17.6 ppm	Lester and Adams 1965
	15 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 8 ppm <sup>a</sup>	Adams 1965
	15 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 12.7 ppm	Davis 1970
	30 min	No lethality.	Harrison and Mackenzie 1973
	1 h	LC <sub>50</sub> = 2.6 ppm	Davis 1970
	1 h	100% lethality = 4.5 ppm	Harrison and Mackenzie 1973
Mouse	1 h 15 min	LC <sub>50</sub> = 1.5 ppm	Davis 1970
		LC <sub>50</sub> = 7.5 ppm	Davis 1970

<sup>a</sup>  
Estimated.

3.2. Nonlethal Toxicity

3.2.1. Monkeys

Exposure of four rhesus monkeys (two males and two females) to oxygen difluoride at 16 ppm for 1 h or at 60 ppm for 15 min was not lethal (Davis 1970). The monkeys exhibited gagging, lacrimation, salivation, muscular weakness, dyspnea, vomiting, and tetany. Neither the severity of the effects nor the number of subjects affected was specified. Dyspnea reportedly persisted for several days after exposure. Hematologic and clinical chemistry evaluations conducted immediately after exposure and at various (unspecified) times during the 14-day observation period revealed no significant findings in measurements of hematologic parameters, uric acid, creatinine, serum alkaline phosphatase, glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase, blood glucose, or extracellular electrolyte composition. Pathologic examination showed slight to moderate pulmonary congestion and edema.

3.2.2. Dogs

Exposure of male and female beagle dogs (two per sex) to oxygen difluoride at concentrations of 60 ppm for 15 min or 8.2 ppm for 60 min was without lethality over a 14-day observation period (Davis 1970). Signs of exposure were similar to those described for monkeys with dyspnea reportedly persisting for several days after the exposure. Clinical findings were similar to those reported for monkeys.

### 3.2.3. Rats

In the lethality study by Lester and Adams (1965), no deaths occurred in rats exposed to oxygen difluoride at 10 ppm for 5 min or at 5 ppm for 15 min. The severity of pulmonary damage (if any) for these animals was not reported. The investigators reported that pulmonary damage increased with time and that if damage did not attain sufficient severity to cause death within 9 h of exposure, then repair of the pulmonary tissue would ensue after 3 days. This contention was based on examination of rats exposed to oxygen difluoride at 20 ppm for 5 min and then killed 0.09, 0.17, 0.58, 0.75, 1, 2, 3.5, 5, 6, 7, 14, 22.5, and 29 h after exposure. Microscopic findings in pulmonary tissue were characterized as slight congestion, focal atelectasis, hemorrhage, polymorphonuclear leukocyte infiltration, edema, and acute pneumonia. Gross examination of rats surviving for 14 days revealed varying degrees of pulmonary damage (slight to moderate hemorrhage, edema, and consolidation of whole lung lobes), some to the extent of questionable survival.

There was no lethality over a 14-day observation period in groups of 10 male Wistar rats exposed to oxygen difluoride at a concentration of 9.5 ppm for *Oxygen Difluoride* 133

15 min or 2.2 ppm for 60 min (Davis 1970). During exposure, the rats exhibited tachypnea and muscular weakness although the severity and the number of animals affected were not specified. Dyspnea reportedly persisted for several days after the exposure. No hematologic or clinical chemistry data were reported.

Harrison and Mackenzie (1973) conducted a study designed to evaluate ultrastructural changes in respiratory tissue following 30- or 60-min exposures to oxygen difluoride at 4.5 ppm (mean measured concentrations). Groups of six white rats (sex not reported) were tested. The rats exposed for 30 min were killed immediately after exposure, and the rats exposed for 60 min were killed either immediately after exposure or after 1 or 2 h. Gross pathologic examination of rats exposed for 60 min and killed 1 or 2 h after exposure revealed patchy areas of edema and “possibly” edema; no gross findings were observed in rats killed immediately after exposure. No findings in any group were observed under light microscopy. Electron microscopy revealed several alterations, including blebbing of endothelial cells and epithelial layers for the alveolo-capillary wall and loss of matrix structure and density of lamellar bodies of Type II cells. Effects became more widespread and extensive with the length of the observation-exposure period. Additional groups of four rats were exposed under that same conditions and observed for lethality. All rats exposed for 30 min survived exposure but showed signs of respiratory distress (details not reported), which resolved after 2 days. All animals exposed for 60 min died within 3 days of exposure.

### 3.2.4. Mice



There were no nonlethal exposures reported by Davis (1970) for groups of 15 male ICR mice exposed to oxygen difluoride. The lowest concentrations tested (4.5 ppm for 15 min or 1.0 ppm for 60 min) resulted in lethality.

**3.2.5. Summary of Nonlethal Toxicity in Animals**

Exposures of rats to oxygen difluoride at 10 ppm for 5 min, at 5-9.5 ppm for 15 min, or at 2.2 ppm for 60 min were not lethal (assessed after a 14-day observation period). Nonlethal concentrations in rhesus monkeys were 16 ppm for 1 h or 60 ppm for 15 min. As observed with data on lethality, smaller species (rats and mice) appear to be more sensitive than larger species (monkeys and dogs) to the nonlethal effects of oxygen difluoride. Pathologic examinations of animals exposed to oxygen difluoride confirm pulmonary involvement (congestion, edema, focal atelectasis, and hemorrhage).

**3.3. Developmental and Reproductive Effects**

Data regarding the developmental and reproductive toxicity of oxygen difluoride following inhalation exposure were not available. 134 *Acute Exposure Guideline Levels*

**3.4. Genotoxicity**

No information regarding the genotoxicity of oxygen difluoride was available.

**3.5. Carcinogenicity**

There were no data with which to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of inhaled oxygen difluoride.

**3.6. Summary**

On the basis of lethality data in several species, oxygen difluoride appears to be a potent pulmonary toxicant. Gross and microscopic examinations of rats exposed to oxygen difluoride at 20 ppm for 5 min revealed pulmonary damage (swelling, acute pneumonia, consolidation of lung lobes, focal atelectasis, polymorphonuclear leukocyte infiltration, and pulmonary hemorrhage and edema) that progressed with time following cessation of exposure and which did not appear to affect bronchial regions. Larger species (dogs and monkeys) appeared to be notably less sensitive than rodents (mice and rats) to the lethal effects of oxygen difluoride. The overall toxicity data for oxygen difluoride is compromised by an absence of exposure-response data for nonlethal effects.

## 4. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

### 4.1. Metabolism and Disposition

No data regarding the metabolism and disposition of oxygen difluoride were available.

### 4.2. Mechanism of Toxicity

Data on the mechanism of action of oxygen difluoride are not available. Its oxidizing potential implies an ability to cause direct-contact tissue damage. Necropsy findings in rats (focal atelectasis, hemorrhage, polymorphonuclear leukocyte infiltration, edema, and acute pneumonia) showed that the primary target is the lungs rather than the airways. Necropsy findings in monkeys included massive pulmonary edema and hemorrhage and congestion of the liver, spleen, and kidneys.

### 4.3. Structure-Activity Relationships

Because chemical-specific data were available, structure-activity relationships were not used for development of AEGL-3 values for oxygen difluoride.

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Both fluorine and hydrogen fluoride are present in the reaction mixture producing oxygen difluoride but are less toxic than oxygen difluoride (Lester and Adams 1965). Other fluorinated compounds (hydrogen fluoride, chlorine pentafluoride, and chlorine trifluoride) also act as direct-contact irritants. Relative lethality data from Davis (1970) and Darmer et al. (1972) for a 1-h exposure to several fluorinated compounds are summarized in Table 4-9. Generally, the potency of the compounds is greatest for oxygen difluoride, followed by chlorine pentafluoride, chlorine trifluoride, and then hydrogen fluoride.

### 4.4. Species Variability

As shown by the data from Davis, (1970), there is considerable variability in the lethal response to inhaled oxygen difluoride among the species tested (monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice). Specifically, comparison of 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> values reveals about a 17-fold difference between the least sensitive and most sensitive species, with larger species appearing to be less sensitive. Additionally, the monkey appears to exhibit the least variability in lethal response to other fluorinated compounds.

### 4.5. Concurrent Exposure Issues

Concurrent exposure to other chemicals affecting the respiratory tract will be of concern but cannot be readily quantified.

4.6. Susceptible Populations

No information on the relative susceptibility of individuals with preexisting pulmonary diseases was identified. Individuals with pre-existing lung disease might be at increased risk from acute exposure to oxygen difluoride. In addition, asthmatics may respond to irritants with increased bronchial responsiveness. The very old and those who are ill may also have increased susceptibility to irritants such as oxygen difluoride.

TABLE 4-9 Relative Lethality of Oxygen Difluoride to Other Fluorinated Compounds<sup>a</sup>

Species	Oxygen Difluoride	Chlorine Pentafluoride	Chlorine Trifluoride	Hydrogen Fluoride
Rat	2.6/2.6 = 1	122/2.6 = 47	299/2.6 = 115	1,276/2.6 = 491
Mouse	1.5/1.5 = 1	57/1.5 = 38	178/1.5 = 119	501/1.5 = 334
Dog	26/26 = 1	122/26 = 5	—	—
Monkey	26/26 = 1	173/26 = 6.7	230/26 = 8.8	1,774/26 = 68

<sup>a</sup> 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> values expressed in ppm (Davis 1970; Darmer et al. 1972).

5. DATA ANALYSIS FOR AEGL-1

5.1. Human Data Relevant to AEGL-1

No quantitative data regarding AEGL-1 type effects in humans exposed to oxygen difluoride are available.

5.2. Animal Data Relevant to AEGL-1

No data regarding AEGL-1 type effects in animals exposed to oxygen difluoride are available.

5.3. Derivation of AEGL-1 Values

Exposure-response data for AEGL-1 severity effects was unavailable for oxygen difluoride. Studies in animals primarily focused on lethality. Where nonlethal responses were reported, the severity of the effects was not described or likely involved effects more severe (e.g., pulmonary damage) than those relevant

to AEGL-1 values. Therefore, AEGL-1 values are not recommended for oxygen difluoride because of insufficient data.

## **6. DATA ANALYSIS FOR AEGL-2**

### **6.1. Human Data Relevant to AEGL-2**

In a review chapter, Diechmann and Gerarde (1969) stated that exposure of humans to oxygen difluoride at 0.5 ppm for “a few hours” produced respiratory-tract irritation and pulmonary edema and hemorrhage; however, no additional information was reported and a primary citation for the findings was not reported. Similar respiratory tract effects have been reported in laboratory animals. No additional information regarding AEGL-2 level effects in humans was identified.

### **6.2. Animal Data Relevant to AEGL-2**

Information regarding AEGL-2 severity effects from oxygen difluoride is limited to that obtained from studies focusing on lethality (Lester and Adams 1965; Davis 1970; Harrison and Mackenzie 1973). The lowest concentrations tested (per exposure duration) in monkeys, dogs, and rats were the no-effect levels for lethality (see Tables 4-3 to 4-6). In addition, at the lowest concentrations tested, AEGL-2 level effects were observed, as summarized below. Therefore, the data are not suitable as the basis for deriving AEGL-2 values.

Davis (1970) reported the oxygen difluoride was nonlethal for a 1-h exposure at 16 ppm in monkeys, at 8.2 ppm in dogs 8.2 ppm, and at 2.2 ppm in rats; *Oxygen Difluoride* 137

for a 15-min exposure it was nonlethal at 60 ppm in monkeys and dogs and at 9.5 ppm in rats. Nonlethal exposures produced effects which could impair escape (AEGL-2 level effects), including gagging (monkeys and dogs), lacrimation (monkeys and dogs), muscular weakness (monkeys, dogs, and rats), dyspnea (monkeys and dogs), vomiting (monkeys and dogs), tetany (rats), and tachypnea (rats). In addition, slight-to-moderate pulmonary congestion and edema were observed at sublethal exposures; however, the study report did not report provide any additional details of these findings.

No lethality was observed in rats exposed to oxygen difluoride at 10 ppm for 5 min or at 5 ppm for 15 min (Lester and Adams 1965). In rats exposed at 20 ppm for 5 min, gross and microscopic examinations showed significant pulmonary damage, including swelling, acute pneumonia, consolidation of lung lobes, focal atelectasis, polymorphonuclear leukocyte infiltration, and pulmonary hemorrhage and edema; however, the study report did not provide adequate information to determine the severity of pulmonary damage.

At a nonlethal exposure to oxygen difluoride at 4.5 ppm for 30 min, respiratory distress was observed (Harrison and McKenzie, 1973). However, only

one concentration was evaluated and, therefore, a no-effect level for AEGL-2 level effects was not identified in this study.

6.3. Derivation of AEGL-2 Values

Available studies on oxygen difluoride did not identify a no-effect level for AEGL-2 effects. Lethality data for oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice indicate that the exposure-response curve for lethality is steep (data reported in Tables 4-3 to 4-7). Therefore, AEGL-2 values were derived by dividing the AEGL-3 values by 3, in accordance with the standing operating procedures for deriving AEGL values (NRC 2001).

The AEGL-2 values for oxygen difluoride are presented in Table 4-10. As noted in Section 6.1, Diechmann and Gerarde (1969) stated that humans exposed to oxygen difluoride at 0.5 ppm for “a few hours” developed respiratorytract irritation and pulmonary edema and hemorrhage. However, that information cannot be verified or reviewed, as a primary reference to support the statement was not provided. Davis (1970) reported that sublethal exposures of monkeys (16 ppm for 1 h), dogs (8.2 ppm for 1 h), and rats (2.2 ppm for 1 h) produced slight to moderate pulmonary congestion and edema. AEGL-2 values for durations of 30 min or longer are below the effect-level report by Diechmann and Gerarde (1969), with the 4- and 8-h AEGL-2 values more than 10-fold lower. Thus, the AEGL-2 values are protective for AEGL-2 level effects.

TABLE 4-10 AEGL-2 Values for Oxygen Difluoride

10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
0.43 ppm (0.95 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.16 ppm (0.35 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.083 ppm (0.18 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.024 ppm (0.053 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.013 ppm (0.029 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

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7. DATA ANALYSIS FOR AEGL-3

7.1. Human Data Relevant to AEGL-3

No data on lethality in humans from inhalation exposure to oxygen difluoride were available.

7.2. Animal Data Relevant to AEGL-3

Acute lethality data for several animal species are available (Lester and Adams 1965; Davis, 1970). One-hour LC<sub>50</sub> values ranged from 1.5 to 26.0 ppm, with larger species (dogs and monkeys) being less sensitive than smaller species (rats and mice) (see Table 4-8). Gross and microscopic examinations of the lungs of rats serially killed over 29 h after a single 5-min exposure to oxygen difluoride at 20 ppm (Lester and Adams 1965) indicated that lethality was contingent on the

relationship between pulmonary damage (the primary target of oxygen difluoride) and tissue repair. Three days appeared to define a critical period for determining a lethal versus nonlethal response. Necropsy of rats, mice, dogs, and monkeys exposed at sublethal concentrations of oxygen difluoride revealed minor or moderate pulmonary edema and congestion for up to 14 days after exposure (Davis 1970).

### 7.3. Derivation of AEGL-3 Values

Lethality data from studies of rhesus monkeys exposed to oxygen difluoride (Davis 1970) were used as the basis for AEGL-3 values, because monkeys are a more relevant test species for humans than rodents and because hematology, clinical chemistry, and gross pathology data were available for 14 days after exposure. Benchmark dose analysis of the 1-h exposure data for monkeys resulted in a  $BMC_{05}$  of 17.2 ppm, a  $BMCL_{05}$  of 7.48 ppm, and a  $BMC_{01}$  of 14.4 ppm (EPA 2003; see Appendix D). Analysis of the same data by the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (1949) resulted in an  $LC_1$  value of about 13 ppm and an  $LC_5$  value of about 17 ppm (see Appendix D). The  $BMCL_{05}$  (7.48 ppm) accounts for the variability due to the small number of animals tested (four per group); although it is lower than the  $LC_5$  determined by the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (1949), the  $BMCL_{05}$  is typically used as the point-of-departure for deriving AEGL-3 values (NRC 2001). Time scaling was performed using the equation  $C^n \times t = k$ . An empirical value of 1.1 for the exponent  $n$  was determined using the data of Lester and Adams (1965) and Davis (1970) and the software package of ten Berge. Regression analysis of the 5-, 15- and 60-min  $LC_{50}$  values of Lester and Adams (1965) and Davis (1970) resulted in a similar  $n$  value of 1.27.

A total uncertainty factor of 10 was applied. Davis (1970) evaluated the acute inhalation toxicity of oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice.

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Larger species (dogs and monkeys) appeared to be less sensitive to the lethal effects of inhaled oxygen difluoride than smaller species (rats and mice), with up to a 17-fold difference between the rhesus monkey and the mouse. However, the study was conducted using a small number of animals (two males and two females per group). Therefore, an interspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was applied. Although asthmatics and individuals with compromised pulmonary function may be considered more susceptible to the effects of oxygen difluoride than healthy individuals, necropsy findings in multiple animal species indicate that the primary target of oxygen difluoride toxicity is the lungs rather than airways. For this reason an intraspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was considered sufficient to account for individual variability in the toxic response to inhaled oxygen difluoride. A factor of 3 is also consistent with the uncertainty factor used to derive AEGL values for other direct-acting fluorinated compounds (chlorine pentafluoride, chlorine trifluoride, and hydrogen fluoride). A modifying factor of 3 was also applied to account the sparse data set on oxygen difluoride.

The AEGL-3 values for oxygen difluoride are presented in Table 4-11, and the calculations are shown in Appendix A.

8. SUMMARY OF AEGLS

8.1. AEGL Values and Toxicity End Points

Table 4-12 presents the AEGL values for oxygen difluoride. Data on oxygen difluoride were insufficient for deriving AEGL-1 values. Lethality tests in several laboratory species suggest that inhalation exposure to oxygen difluoride results in latent pulmonary damage. Data with which to derive AEGL-2 value were unavailable. Because lethality data indicate that oxygen difluoride has a steep concentration-response curve, AEGL-2 values were derived by dividing AEGL-3 values by 3. AEGL-3 values for oxygen difluoride were derived from an estimated lethality threshold (1-h BMCL<sub>05</sub> of 7.48 ppm in rhesus monkeys).

8.2. Comparisons with Other Standards and Guidelines

Standards and guidance levels established for oxygen difluoride for workplace and community exposures are presented in Table 4-13. The primary distinction that explains the differences between the values established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is that those values apply to working populations and are intended to prevent adverse health effects from exposures over a working lifetime whereas AEGL values apply to the general population, including susceptible subpopulations, and are intended to protect against adverse health effects from a single exposure occurring only once in a lifetime.

TABLE 4-11 AEGL-3 Values for Oxygen Difluoride

10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
1.3 ppm (2.9 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.47 ppm (1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.25 ppm (0.55 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.071 ppm (0.16 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.038 ppm (0.084 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

TABLE 4-12 AEGL Values for Oxygen Difluoride

Classification	10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
AEGL-1 (nondisabling)	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>	NR <sup>a</sup>
AEGL-2 (disabling)	0.43 ppm (0.95 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.16 ppm (0.35 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.083 ppm (0.18 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.024 ppm ppm (0.053 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.013 (0.029 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

AEGL-3 (lethal)	1.3 ppm (2.9 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.47 ppm (1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.25 ppm (0.55 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.071 ppm ppm (0.16 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.038 (0.084
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<sup>a</sup> Not recommended. Absence of AEGL-1 values does not imply that exposures at concentrations below the AEGL-2 values are without adverse effects.

**TABLE 4-13** Other Standards and Guidelines for Oxygen Difluoride

Guideline	Exposure Duration				
	10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
AEGL-1	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
AEGL-2	0.43 ppm	0.16 ppm	0.083 ppm	0.024 ppm	0.013 ppm
AEGL-3	1.3 ppm	0.47 ppm	0.25 ppm	0.071 ppm	0.038 ppm
IDLH (NIOSH) <sup>a</sup>	–	0.5 ppm	–	–	-
TLV-C (ACGIH) <sup>b</sup>	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm
REL-C (NIOSH) <sup>c</sup>	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm
PEL-TWA (OSHA) <sup>d</sup>	–	–	–	–	0.05 ppm

<sup>a</sup> IDLH (immediately dangerous to life or health, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) (NIOSH 1994) represents the maximum concentration from which one could escape within 30 min without any escape-impairing symptoms, or any irreversible health effects.

<sup>b</sup> TLV-C (threshold limit value – ceiling, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists) (ACGIH 2012) is a concentration that must not be exceeded during any part of the workday.

<sup>c</sup> REL-C (recommended exposure limit – ceiling, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) (NIOSH 2011) is defined analogous to the ACGIH TLV-C.

<sup>d</sup> PEL-TWA (permissible exposure limit – time-weighted average, Occupational Safety and Health Administration) (29CFR 1910[2013]) is the average airborne concentration that should not be exceeded in any 8-h work shift of a 40-h work week.

8.3. Data Adequacy and Research Needs

Data on human exposure to oxygen difluoride were not available. Results of animal studies in several species were sufficient for identifying lethal concen

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trations of oxygen difluoride vapor, demonstrating latency in the lethal response, deep pulmonary damage as the probable cause of death, and that smaller species



exhibited greater sensitivity to the lethal effects of oxygen difluoride than larger species. The AEGL-2 and AEGL-3 values are based on data from a study in rhesus monkeys. Lethal response data 14-days after exposure, hematologic and clinical chemistry measurements, and gross pathology findings were used to define critical effects. Although lethality data are available to derive AEGL-3 effects, a modifying factor was applied to account for a sparse database. Data from which to definitively assess the exposure response-exposure duration relationship for nonlethal effects of oxygen difluoride were lacking.

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**APPENDIX A**

**DERIVATION OF AEGL VALUES FOR OXYGEN DIFLUORIDE**

**Derivation of AEGL-1 Values**

AEGL-1 values for oxygen difluoride are not recommended because of insufficient data. The absence of AEGL-1 values does not imply that exposures at concentrations below the AEGL-2 values are without adverse effects.

**Derivation of AEGL-2 Values**

No data were available on oxygen difluoride from which to define a point-of-departure for deriving AEGL-2 values. Lethality data from studies in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice show that the exposure-response curve for oxygen difluoride is steep (Lester and Adams 1965; Davis 1970). Therefore, in accordance with the standing operating procedures for deriving AEGL values (NRC 2001), the AEGL-2 values were estimated by dividing the AEGL-3 values by 3.

Calculations:

10-min AEGL-2	$1.3 \text{ ppm} \div 3 = 0.43 \text{ ppm}$
30-min AEGL-2	$0.47 \text{ ppm} \div 3 = 0.16 \text{ ppm}$
1-h AEGL-2	$0.25 \text{ ppm} \div 3 = 0.083 \text{ ppm}$
4-h AEGL-2	$0.071 \text{ ppm} \div 3 = 0.024 \text{ ppm}$
8-h AEGL-2	$0.038 \text{ ppm} \div 3 = 0.013 \text{ ppm}$

**Derivation of AEGL-3 Values**

Key study:	Davis, H.V. 1970. Acute Toxicity of Oxygen Difluoride. AMRL-TR-70-102 Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base , OH.
Critical effect:	Lethality in rhesus monkeys, 1-h BMCL <sub>05</sub> of 7.48 ppm. The BMCL <sub>05</sub> accounts for the variability due to the small number of test animals (four per group) and is typically used as the point-of-departure for deriving AEGL-3 values. The BMCL <sub>05</sub> is below the 1-h nonlethal concentration of 16 ppm reported by Davis (1970) for rhesus monkeys and beagle dogs. It is also about onethird of the 1-h LC <sub>50</sub> of 26 ppm determined by the

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	method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (1949), but is more conservative than the 1-h LC <sub>5</sub> of 17 ppm calculated by that method.
Time scaling:	C <sup>n</sup> × t = k; an empirical value for the exponent n of 1.1 was determined using the software of ten Berge and data from the studies by Lester and Adams (1965) and Davis (1979) (see Appendix B). Regression analysis of the 1-h LC <sub>50</sub> data from those studies resulted in a similar value for n of 1.27. $(7.48 \text{ ppm})^{1.1} \times 1 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$

Uncertainty factors:	<p>Total uncertainty factor: 10</p> <p>3 for interspecies differences. Davis (1970) evaluated the acute inhalation toxicity of oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats and mice. Larger species (dogs and monkeys) appeared to be less sensitive to the lethal effects of oxygen difluoride than smaller species (rats and mice). However, the study was conducted using a small number of animals (two males and two females per group).</p> <p>3 for intraspecies variability; to account for greater sensitivity of individuals with compromised respiratory function. That value is also consistent with the uncertainty factor used for other direct-acting fluorinated compounds (chlorine pentafluoride, chlorine trifluoride, and hydrogen fluoride, which all appear to cause tissue irritation by direct-contact mechanisms). Data in animals indicate that the primary target is the deep lung rather than the airways. Therefore, an intraspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was considered sufficient to account for individual variability in the toxic response to oxygen difluoride.</p>
Modifying factor:	3, for sparse data set
Calculations:	
10-min AEGL-3:	$C^{1.1} \times 0.1667 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$ $C = 38.13 \text{ ppm}$ $38.13 \text{ ppm} \div 30 = 1.27 \text{ ppm (1.3 ppm)}$
30-min AEGL-3:	$C^{1.1} \times 0.5 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$ $C = 14.05 \text{ ppm}$ $14.05 \text{ ppm} \div 30 = 0.468 \text{ ppm (0.47 ppm)}$

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1-h AEGL-3:	$C^{1.1} \times 1 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$ $C = 7.48 \text{ ppm}$ $7.48 \text{ ppm} \div 30 = 0.249 \text{ ppm (0.25 ppm)}$
4-h AEGL-3:	$C^{1.1} \times 4 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$ $C = 2.12 \text{ ppm}$

8-h AEGL-3:

$$2.12 \text{ ppm} \div 30 = 0.071 \text{ ppm}$$
$$C^{1.1} \times 8 \text{ h} = 9.15 \text{ ppm-h}$$
$$C = 1.13 \text{ ppm}$$
$$1.13 \text{ ppm} \div 30 = 0.038 \text{ ppm}$$

APPENDIX B

TIME SCALING CALCULATIONS FOR OXYGEN DIFLUORIDE

The relationship between dose and time for any given chemical is a function of the physical and chemical properties of the substance and the unique toxicologic and pharmacologic properties of the individual substance. Historically, the relationship according to Haber (1924), commonly called Haber’s Law or Haber’s Rule ( $C \times t = k$ , where  $C$  = exposure concentration,  $t$  = exposure duration, and  $k$  = a constant) has been used to relate exposure concentration and duration to effect (Rinehart and Hatch 1964). The concept states that exposure concentration and exposure duration may be reciprocally adjusted to maintain a cumulative exposure constant ( $k$ ) and that the cumulative exposure constant will always reflect a specific quantitative and qualitative response. The inverse relationship of concentration and time may be valid when the toxic response to a chemical is equally dependent on the concentration and the exposure duration. However, an assessment of  $LC_{50}$  data for certain chemicals by ten Berge et al. (1986) revealed chemical-specific relationships between exposure concentration and exposure duration that were often exponential. That relationship can be expressed by the equation  $C^n \times t = k$ , where  $n$  represents a chemical-specific, and even a toxic end-point specific, exponent. The relationship described by the equation is basically the form of a linear regression analysis of the log-log transformation of a plot of  $C$  vs.  $t$ . ten Berge et al. (1986) examined the airborne concentration ( $C$ ) and short-term exposure duration ( $t$ ) relationship relative to death for approximately 20 chemicals and found that the empirically derived value of  $n$  ranged from 0.8 to 3.5 among the chemicals. Hence, the value of the exponent ( $n$ ) in the equation  $C^n \times t = k$  quantitatively defines the relationship between exposure concentration and exposure duration for a given chemical and for a specific health effect end point. Haber’s Rule is the special case where  $n = 1$ . As the value of  $n$  increases, the plot of concentration vs. time yields a progressive decrease in the slope of the curve.

TABLE B-1 Oxygen Difluoride Lethality in Rats

Time	Conc.	Log Time	Log Conc.	Regression Output:	
5	17.6	0.6990	1.2455	Intercept	1.8782
15	12.7	1.1761	1.1038	Slope	-0.7857
60	2.6	1.7782	0.4150	R Squared	0.9145
				Correlation	-0.9563
				Degrees of Freedom	1
				Observations	3
n =	1.27				

k = 245.78

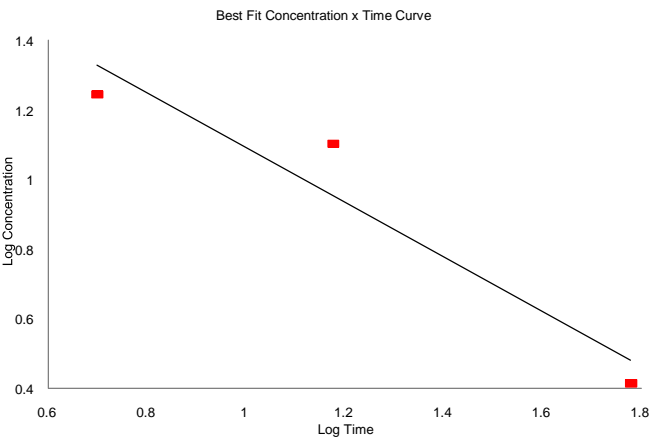
Source: Lester and Adams 1965; Davis 1970.

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Analysis of data from Davis (1970) and Lester and Adams (1965) using the software of ten Berge resulted in a value for n of 1.1. Regression analysis of lethality data for rats (LC<sub>50</sub> values for 5 min, 15 min, and 1 h) also showed a near linear relationship (n = 1.27), similar to that of the ten Berge software. The n value of 1.1 was used for deriving the AEGL values for oxygen difluoride.

LogProbit\_Oxygen difluoride\_rat AEGL



LogProbit\_Oxygen difluoride\_rat AEGL

Filename: Oxygen difluoride\_rat AEGL for Log Probit Model

Date: 09 February 2007 Time: 12:15:08

Seq. Nr Responded	Conc ppm	Minutes	Exposed	
1	10	5	10	0
2	20	5	10	7
3	30	5	10	9
4	40	5	10	10
5	5	15	10	0
6	10	15	10	7
7	15	15	10	7
8	10	15	10	0
9	10	15	10	1
10	11	15	10	3
11	12	15	10	1
12	14	15	10	9

13	15	15	10	8
14	17	15	10	9
15	2	60	10	0
16	3	60	10	7
17	3	60	15	14
18	4	60	10	10
<hr/>				
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Filename: Oxygen difluoride\_rat AEGL for Log Probit Model  
Date: 09 February 2007 Time: 12:18:17

Seq. Nr Responded	Conc ppm	Minutes	Exposed	
1	10	5	10	0
2	20	5	10	7
3	30	5	10	9
4	40	5	10	10
5	5	15	10	0
6	10	15	10	7
7	15	15	10	7
8	10	15	10	0
9	10	15	10	1
10	11	15	10	3
11	12	15	10	1
12	14	15	10	9
13	15	15	10	8
14	17	15	10	9
15	2	60	10	0
16	3	60	10	7
17	3	60	15	14
18	4	60	10	10

Observations 1 through 18 considered!

Seq. Nr Responded	Conc ppm	Minutes	Exposed	
1	10	5	10	0
2	20	5	10	7
3	30	5	10	9
4	40	5	10	10
5	5	15	10	0
6	10	15	10	7
7	15	15	10	7
8	10	15	10	0
9	10	15	10	1
10	11	15	10	3
11	12	15	10	1
12	14	15	10	9



13	15	15	10	8
14	17	15	10	9
15	2	60	10	0
16	3	60	10	7
17	3	60	15	14
18	4	60	10	10

Used Probit Equation  $Y = B_0 + B_1 \times X_1 + B_2 \times X_2$   
X1 = Conc ppm, ln-transformed  
X2 = Minutes, ln-transformed

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Chi Square = 74.27  
Degrees of freedom = 15  
Probability model = 7.66E-10

Ln (likelihood) = -56.25

B 0 = -6.6734E+00      Student t = -1.5079  
B 1 = 2.4596E+00      Student t = 2.7662  
B 2 = 2.2229E+00      Student t = 2.5684

variance B 00 = 1.9587E+01  
covariance B 01 = -3.8663E+00  
covariance B 02 = -3.7876E+00  
variance B 11 = 7.9059E-01 covariance  
B12 = 7.3043E-01  
variance B 22 = 7.4905E-01

Estimation ratio between regression coefficients of ln(conc) and ln(minutes)  
Point estimate = 1.106  
Lower limit (95% CL) = 0.817  
Upper limit (95% CI) = 1.396

Filename: Oxygen difluoride\_rat AEGL for Log Probit Model  
Date: 09 February 2007    Time: 12:41:36

Seq. Nr Responded	Conc ppm	Minutes	Exposed	
1	10	5	10	0
2	20	5	10	7
3	30	5	10	9
4	40	5	10	10
5	5	15	10	0
6	10	15	10	7
7	15	15	10	7
8	10	15	10	0
9	10	15	10	1

10	11	15	10	3
11	12	15	10	1
12	14	15	10	9
13	15	15	10	8
14	17	15	10	9
15	2	60	10	0
16	3	60	10	7
17	3	60	15	14
18	4	60	10	10

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Acute Exposure Guideline Levels

APPENDIX C

ACUTE EXPOSURE GUIDELINE LEVELS FOR  
OXYGEN DIFLUORIDE

Derivation Summary

AEGL-1 VALUES

AEGL-1 values for oxygen difluoride are not recommended because of insufficient data. The absence of AEGL-1 values does not imply that exposures at concentrations below the AEGL-2 values are without adverse effects.

AEGL-2 VALUES

10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
0.43 ppm (0.95 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.16 ppm (0.35 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.083 ppm (0.18 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.024 ppm (0.053 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.013 ppm (0.029 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

Data adequacy: Data were not available from which to define a point-of-departure for AEGL-2 values for oxygen difluoride. Lethality data from studies in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice show that the exposure-response curve for oxygen difluoride is steep (Lester and Adams 1965; Davis 1970). Therefore, in accordance with the standing operating procedures for deriving AEGL values (NRC 2001), the AEGL-2 values were estimated by dividing the AEGL-3 values by 3.

AEGL-3 VALUES

10 min	30 min	1 h	4 h	8 h
1.3 ppm (2.9 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.47 ppm (1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.25 ppm (0.55 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.071 ppm (0.16 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.038 ppm (0.084 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

Reference: Davis, H.V. 1970. Acute Toxicity of Oxygen Difluoride. AMRL-TR-70-102. Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.

Test species/Strain/Sex/Number: Monkey; rhesus; 2/sex/group

Exposure route/Concentrations/Durations: Inhalation; 60, 100, 120, or 140 ppm for 15 min or 16, 21, or 32 ppm for 1 h.

Effects:

15 min		1 h	
Conc. (ppm)	Mortality ratio	Conc. (ppm)	Mortality ratio
60	0/4	16 21	0/4
100	2/4	32	1/4
120	2/4		3/4
140	4/4		

End point/Concentration/Rationale: BMCL<sub>05</sub> of 7.48 ppm; accounts for the variability due to the small number of test animals (four per group) and is typically used as the point-of-departure for AEGL-3 values. The BMCL<sub>05</sub> is below the 1-h nonlethal

(Continued)

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AEGL-3 VALUES Continued

concentration of 16 ppm reported by Davis (1970) for rhesus monkeys and beagle dogs. It is also about one-third of the 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> of 26 ppm determined by the method of Litchfield and Wilcoxon (1949), but more conservative than the 1-h LC<sub>5</sub> of 17 ppm calculated by that method.

Uncertainty factors/Rationale:

Total uncertainty factor: 10

Interspecies: 3, Davis (1970) evaluated the acute inhalation toxicity of oxygen difluoride in monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice. Larger species (dogs and monkeys) appeared to be less sensitive to the lethal effects of oxygen difluoride than smaller species (rats and mice). However, the study was conducted using a small number of animals (two males and two females per group). Therefore an interspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was applied.

Intraspecies: 3, consistent with the uncertainty factor application for other direct-acting fluorinated compounds (chlorine pentafluoride, chlorine trifluoride, and hydrogen fluoride, which all appear to cause tissue irritation by direct-contact mechanisms). Data in animals indicate that the primary target is the deep lung rather than the airways.

Therefore, an intraspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was considered sufficient to account for individual variability in the toxic response to oxygen difluoride. Modifying factor: 3 to account for the sparse data set on oxygen difluoride

Animal-to-human dosimetric adjustment: Not applicable

Time scaling: C<sup>n</sup> × t = k; an empirical value of 1.1 for the exponent n was derived using the software of ten Berge and the data from the studies by Lester and Adams (1965) and Davis (1970). Regression analysis of 1-h LC<sub>50</sub> data from those studies resulted in a similar n value of 1.27.

Data adequacy: Lethality data are available for four species (monkeys, dogs, rats, and mice) and are sufficient for deriving AEGL-3 values. However, due to the sparse data set, a modifying factor of 3 was applied. Results of experiments indicate that larger species are less susceptible to oxygen difluoride than smaller species.

APPENDIX D

LETHALITY THRESHOLD AND BENCHMARK DOSE  
ANALYSIS FOR OXYGEN DIFLUORIDE

Davis (1970): Rhesus monkeys (4/group; 2 males, 2 females), 1-h exposure BMCL<sub>05</sub>

Probit Model \$Revision: 2.1 \$ \$Date: 2000/02/26 03:38:53 \$  
Input Data File: C:\BMDS\UNSAVED1.(d)  
Gnuplot Plotting File: C:\BMDS\UNSAVED1.plt  
Tue Jan 30 08:44:51 2007  
-----  
BMDS MODEL RUN

The form of the probability function is:  
 $P[\text{response}] = \text{Background} + (1 - \text{Background}) * \text{CumNorm}(\text{Intercept} + \text{Slope} * \text{Log}(\text{Dose}))$ ,  
where CumNorm(.) is the cumulative normal distribution function

Dependent variable = COLUMN3  
Independent variable = COLUMN1  
Slope parameter is not restricted

Total number of observations = 4  
Total number of records with missing values = 0  
Maximum number of iterations = 250  
Relative Function Convergence has been set to: 1e-008  
Parameter Convergence has been set to: 1e-008

User has chosen the log transformed model Default  
Initial (and Specified) Parameter Values  
background = 0 intercept  
= -9.26036  
slope = 2.85468

Asymptotic Correlation Matrix of Parameter Estimates

The model parameter(s) - background have been estimated at a boundary point, or have been specified by the user, and do not appear in the correlation matrix

intercept slope intercept  
1 -1 slope -1 1

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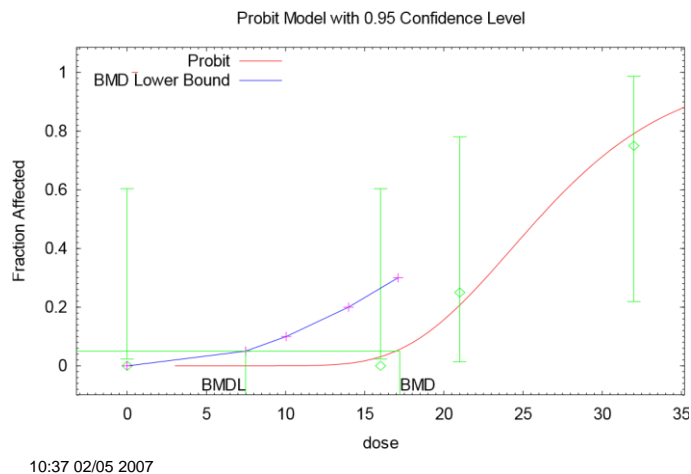
Parameter Estimates		
Variable	Estimate	Std. Err.
background	0	NA
intercept	-12.6489	5.97666
slope	3.8667	1.85849
thus has no standard error. nd implied by s		

Analysis of Deviance Table				
Model	Log (likelihood)	Deviance	Test DF	P-value
Full model	-4.49868			
Fitted model	-4.65729	0.317211	2	0.8533
Reduced model	-8.99736	8.99736	3	0.02933
AIC: 13.3146				

Goodness of Fit Scaled					
Dose	Est. Prob.	Expected	Observed	Size	Residual
0.0000	0.0000	0.000	0	4	0
16.0000	0.0269	0.108	0	4	-0.3327
21.0000	0.1903	0.761	1	4	0.3039
32.0000	0.7740	3.096	3	4	-0.1148
Chi-square = 0.22 DF = 2 P-value = 0.8975					

Benchmark Dose Computation  
Specified effect = 0.05  
Risk Type = Extra risk  
Confidence level = 0.95

BMC = 17.216  
BMCL = 7.48236



**FIGURE D-1** Probit model BMCL<sub>05</sub>.  
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Davis (1970): Rhesus monkeys (4/group; 2 males, 2 females), 1-h exposure BMC<sub>01</sub>

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Probit Model \$Revision: 2.1 \$ \$Date: 2000/02/26 03:38:53 \$  
Input Data File: C:\BMDS\UNSAVED1.(d)  
Gnuplot Plotting File: C:\BMDS\UNSAVED1.plt Wed  
Jan 31 10:38:01 2007

---

BMDS MODEL RUN

---

The form of the probability function is:  $P[\text{response}] = \text{Background} + (1 - \text{Background}) * \text{CumNorm}(\text{Intercept} + \text{Slope} * \text{Log}(\text{Dose}))$ , where  $\text{CumNorm}(\cdot)$  is the cumulative normal distribution function

Dependent variable = COLUMN3  
Independent variable = COLUMN1  
Slope parameter is not restricted

Total number of observations = 3  
Total number of records with missing values = 0  
Maximum number of iterations = 250  
Relative Function Convergence has been set to: 1e-008  
Parameter Convergence has been set to: 1e-008

User has chosen the log transformed model Default  
Initial (and Specified) Parameter Values  
background = 0 intercept  
= -9.26036  
slope = 2.85468

Asymptotic Correlation Matrix of Parameter Estimates  
The model parameter(s) - background have been estimated at a boundary point, or have been specified by the user, and do not appear in the correlation matrix )

                  intercept slope intercept  
1          -1 slope -1          1

Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Std. Err.
background	0	NA
intercept	-12.6489	5.97666
slope	3.8667	1.85849

NA indicates that this parameter has hit a bound implied by some inequality constraint and thus has no standard error.

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Analysis of Deviance Table

Model	Log (likelihood)	Deviance	Test DF	P-value
Full model	-4.49868			
Fitted model	-4.65729	0.317211	1	0.5733
Reduced model	-7.63817	6.27898	2	0.0433

AIC: 13.3146

Goodness of Fit Scaled

Dose	Est. Prob.	Expected	Observed	Size	Residual
16.0000	0.0269	0.108	0	4	-0.3327
21.0000	0.1903	0.761	1	4	0.3039
32.0000	0.7740	3.096	3	4	-0.1148

Chi-square = 0.22 DF = 1 P-value = 0.6420

Benchmark Dose Computation  
Specified effect = 0.01  
Risk Type = Extra risk  
Confidence level = 0.95  
**BMC = 14.4341**  
BMCL = 4.22764

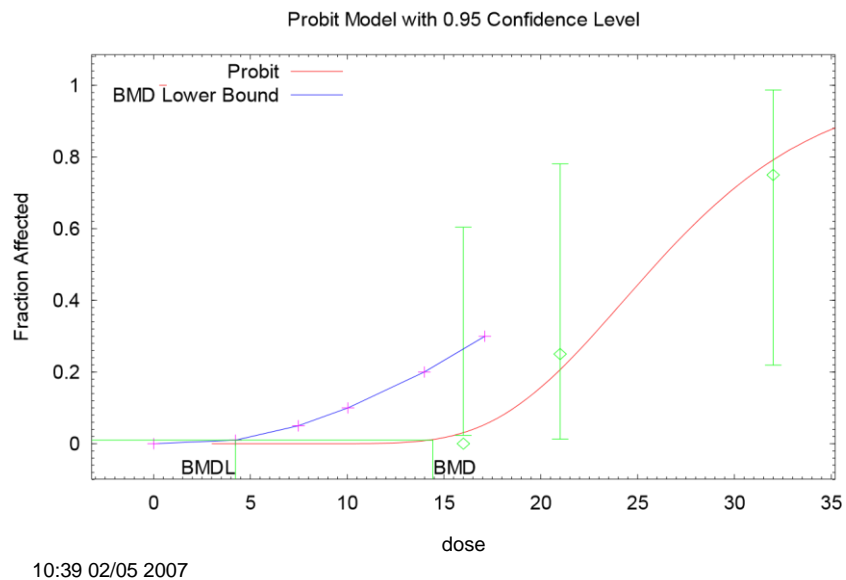


FIGURE D-2 Probit model BMC<sub>01</sub>.

LC<sub>50</sub> and Lethality Threshold - Litchfield-Wilcoxon

Davis (1970): Rhesus monkeys, 1-h exposure to oxygen difluoride					
	Mortality	Observed %	Expected %	Observed-Expected	Chi-Square
16.000	0/4	0 (2.30)	3.37	-1.07	0.0035
21.000	1/4	25.00	18.45	6.55	0.0285
32.000	3/4	75.00	80.38	-5.38	0.0183

Values in parentheses are corrected for 0 or 100 percent Total = 0.0503

LC<sub>50</sub> = 26.067(20.584 - 33.010)\*  
Slope = 1.27(1.02 - 1.58)\*  
\*These values are 95 percent confidence limits

Total animals = 12 Total doses = 3 Animals/dose = 4.00  
Chi-square = total chi-square X animals/dose = 0.2013  
Table value for Chi-square with 1 Degrees of Freedom = 3.8400

LC<sub>84</sub> = 33.175 LC<sub>16</sub> = 20.481 FED = 1.27 FS = 1.24 A = 1.10

Expected Lethal Dose Values  
LC<sub>0.1</sub> 9.545



LC <sub>1.0</sub>	13.360
LC <sub>5.0</sub>	16.986
LC <sub>10</sub>	18.936
LC <sub>25</sub>	22.217
LC <sub>50</sub>	26.067
LC <sub>75</sub>	30.583
LC <sub>90</sub>	35.882
LC <sub>99</sub>	50.857

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APPENDIX E

CATEGORY PLOT FOR OXYGEN DIFLUORIDE

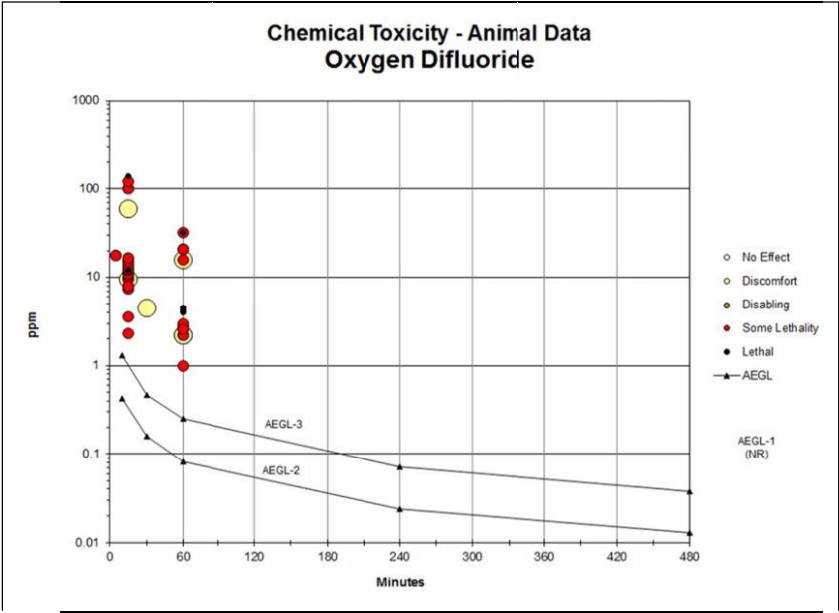


FIGURE E-1 Category plot of toxicity data and AEGL values for oxygen difluoride.

**TABLE E-1** Data Used in Category Plot for Oxygen Difluoride

Source	Species	Sex	No. Exposures	ppm	Minutes	Category	Comments
AEGL-1				NR	10	AEGL	
AEGL-1				NR	30	AEGL	
AEGL-1				NR	60	AEGL	
AEGL-1				NR	240	AEGL	
AEGL-1				NR	480	AEGL	
AEGL-2				0.43	10	AEGL	
AEGL-2				0.16	30	AEGL	
AEGL-2				0.083	60	AEGL	
AEGL-2				0.024	240	AEGL	
AEGL-2				0.013	480	AEGL	
AEGL-3				1.3	10	AEGL	
AEGL-3				0.47	30	AEGL	
AEGL-3				0.25	60	AEGL	
AEGL-3				0.071	240	AEGL	
AEGL-3				0.038	480	AEGL	
Darmer et al. 1972	Rat	M	1	2.6	60	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	60	15	1	Mortality: 0/4
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	100	15	SL	Mortality: 3/4
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	8.2	60	1	Mortality: 0/4
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	16	60	SL	Mortality: 2/4
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	21	60	SL	Mortality: 1/4
Davis 1970	Dog	B	1	32	60	3	Mortality: 4/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	60	15	1	Mortality: 0/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	100	15	SL	Mortality: 2/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	120	15	SL	Mortality: 2/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	140	15	3	Mortality: 4/4

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Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	16	60	1	Mortality: 0/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	21	60	SL	Mortality: 1/4
Davis 1970	Monkey	B	1	32	60	SL	Mortality: 3/4
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	7.5	15	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Davis 1970	Mouse			7.5	15	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	9.5	15	SL	Mortality: 12/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	11.0	15	SL	Mortality: 8/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	11.9	15	3	Mortality: 15/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	15.2	15	SL	Mortality: 12/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	16.5	15	SL	Mortality: 14/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	1.0	60	SL	Mortality: 5/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	2.2	60	SL	Mortality: 8/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	2.2	60	SL	Mortality: 8/15
Davis 1970	Mouse	M	1	4.2	60	3	Mortality: 15/15
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	9.5	15	1	Mortality: 0/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	10.4	15	SL	Mortality: 1/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	11.0	15	SL	Mortality: 3/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	11.9	15	SL	Mortality: 1/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	12.7	15	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	13.8	15	SL	Mortality: 9/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	15.2	15	SL	Mortality: 8/10

*(Continued)*

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**TABLE E-1** Continued

Source	Species	Sex	No. Exposures	ppm	Minutes	Category	Comments
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Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	16.5	15	SL	Mortality: 9/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	2.2	60	1	Mortality: 0/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	2.2	60	1	Mortality: 0/10
Davis 1970	Rat			2.6	60	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	2.7	60	SL	Mortality: 7/10
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	3.0	60	SL	Mortality: 14/15
Davis 1970	Rat	M	1	4.0	60	3	Mortality: 10/10
Harrison and Mackenzie 1973	Rat	M	1	4.5	30	1	Respiratory distress
Harrison and Mackenzie 1973	Rat	M	1	4.5	60	3	Mortality: 4/4
Harrison and Mackenzie 1973	Rat			4.5	60	3	100% mortality
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	17.6	5	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	2.3	15	SL	BMCL <sub>05</sub>
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	3.6	15	SL	BMC <sub>01</sub>
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	8.0	15	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	9.7	15	SL	Mortality: 7/10
Lester and Adams 1965	Rat	B	1	14.6	15	SL	Mortality: 7/10
Vernot et al. 1977	Rat	M	1	2.6	60	SL	LC <sub>50</sub>

For category: 0 = no effect, 1 = discomfort, 2 = disabling, SL = some lethality, 3 = lethality.